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RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF BROMSGROVE

R E P O R T

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

For the Year 1958

BROMSGROVE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT

FOR THE YEAR 1958

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Vice-Chairman of the Council	DR. CHARLES HICKS.
Chairman of the Public Health Committee	A. H. HINGLEY ESQ.
Clerk of the Council	WALTER E. DUDLEY ESQ.

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STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health	C. H. PHILLIPS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
Deputy Medical Officer of Health	V. PUGH, B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
Chief Public Health Inspector	P. P. CHAMINGS, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I. (Cert. Meat and Foods Inspector).
Additional Public Health Inspector	R. F. ROBINS, M.A.P.H.I., (Cert. Meat and Foods Inspector).
Assistant Public Health Inspector	K. J. SMITH.
Clerk	MRS. V. M. GARRATT.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1958

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE BROMSGROVE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report on the Health of the Rural District of Bromsgrove during the year ended 31st December, 1958.

The statistics given in Sections A and F indicate a general maintenance of the health of the community. The population continued to increase by movement into the area and by the increase of births over deaths. There was again a small increase in the total of live-births and it is interesting to note the continued decrease in the number of illegitimate births. There was also an appreciable fall in the Still-birth Rate which is considerably lower than the national rate.

The Death Rate has changed little and, while there was a small increase in the total number of deaths it will be seen that almost half were due to diseases of the circulatory system. Malignant diseases accounted for 21.9% of the deaths while there was a slight decrease in the percentage of deaths due to Respiratory Diseases.

There were comparatively few cases of infectious disease notified during the year, the majority being measles. There was, however, some increase in the notifications of Scarlet Fever. It is pleasing to note that there was no case of Poliomyelitis.

Although there was an increase from 51 to 100 in the total of completed immunisations of children under one year the position is still not satisfactory when compared with the total of 587 births of which at least half, i.e. those born in the first half of the year, could well have been immunised. The fact that once again there has been no case of diphtheria in the district should not be allowed to encourage a complacent attitude to this killing disease.

The response to Poliomyelitis vaccination among children was excellent and it is hoped that an increasing herd immunity in the population will appreciably reduce the deaths and disability resulting from this disease throughout the country.

At the end of the year there were still 441 applicants on the Council's Housing List. Private building fell appreciably from 324 to 150 houses while there was a small increase in Council building from 26 to 35 houses. Many of those remaining on the Housing List continued to live in unsatisfactory conditions and once again I hope that the numbers will be reduced to negligible proportions in the near future.

It is gratifying to note the further extension of water mains in the district. At the same time the position regarding the drinking water supplies from private wells and springs remained most unsatisfactory. Fifty one per cent of samples were found bacteriologically unsatisfactory and 24% were chemically unsatisfactory.

There was no change in the Social Services available in the District. However, the question of the provision of a Meals on Wheels service was considered but enquiry showed that there was no real demand. What is evident is the lively community spirit in the villages in the district, which supplements the work of the District Nursing and Home Help Services.

Once again I would like to thank the Public Health Inspectors and Officers of other Departments for their ready help and co-operation. I also wish to express my appreciation of the consideration shown to me by yourself, Mr. Chairman, and the Members of the Health Committee.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

C. H. PHILLIPS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area in acres 45,610		
Registrar General's estimate of resident population (Census, 1951 - 28,172)	Mid 1958	33,470
	Mid 1957	32,600
	Mid 1947	25,230
	Mid 1937	19,620
Number of inhabited houses according to the Rate Book	End of 1958	10,146
	End of 1957	10,006
	End of 1947	7,798
	End of 1937	6,645
Rateable Value, 31st March, 1958		£388,619
Sum Represented by a Penny Rate at 31st March, 1958		£1,600

POPULATION BY PARISHES	1939	Estimated 1958
Alvechurch	3,236	5,500
Belbroughton	2,676	2,700
Bentley Pauncefoot	344	350
Beoley	770	825
Clent	1,943	2,100
Cofton Hackett	3,736	4,800
Dodford-with-Grafton	513	650
Frankley	184	170
Hagley	2,233	3,225
Hunnington	543	625
Romsley	1,070	1,150
Stoke Prior	2,130	2,500
Tutnall and Cobley	697	825
Wythall	4,482	8,050
TOTALS	24,557	33,470

VITAL STATISTICS

(1957 figures in brackets)

LIVE BIRTHS

	M.	F.	Total
Legitimate	295 (272)	279 (292)	574 (564)
Illegitimate	7 (5)	6 (10)	13 (15)
	302 (277)	285 (302)	587 (579)

Birth Rate (Births per 1,000 population)

	1958	1957	1958	1955	1937	1958 - Eng. Wales	
Crude	17.53	17.45	17.78	13.40	14.1	16.4	(16.1)
Comparability Factor	0.98	1.01	1.01	1.04			
Standardised	17.17	17.62	17.95	13.93			

There was a small increase in the number of births. The standardised birth rate of 17.17 was above that of the whole country of 16.4.

Illegitemacy Rate (Total live illegitimate births per cent total live births)

1958	1957	1956	1955	1937
2.21	2.59	3.58	5.49	3.20

STILL BIRTHS

	M.	F.	Total	
Legitimate	1	5	6	(13)
Illegitimate	-	-	-	(1)
	1	5	6	(14)

Still-birth Rate (Still births per 1,000 total live and still births)

1958	1957	1956	1955	1937	1958 - Eng. Wales	
10.1	23.6	21.0	24.4	38.1	21.6	(22.4)

DEATHS

M.		F.		Total	
181	(148)	134	(153)	315	(301)

Death Rate (Deaths per 1,000 population)

	1958	1957	1956	1955	1937	1958 - Eng. Wales	
Crude	9.41	9.26	9.62	9.40	11.1	11.7	(11.5)
Comparability Factor	1.19	1.17	1.17	1.03			
Standardised	11.19	10.83	11.25	9.68		11.7	(11.5)

Major Causes of Deaths (by percentages)

	1958	1957	1956	1955
1. Disease of the Circulatory System	45%	51.3%	53.0%	53.7%
2. Malignant Diseases	21.9%	18.8%	18.8%	16.0%
3. Respiratory Diseases (excluding T.B.)	12%	13.5%	10.9%	9.9%
4. Violent and Accidental Deaths	6.3%	3.6%	2.6%	4.6%

MATERNAL DEATHS

Maternal Mortality (Maternal Deaths per 1,000 total live and still births)

1958	1957	1956	1955	1937	1958 - England and Wales	
Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	0.43	(0.47)

INFANT AND NEONATAL DEATHS

Infant deaths (under 1 year of age).

	M.	F.	Total
Legitimate	8	3	11 (9)
Illegitimate	2	-	2 (-)
	10	3	13 (9)

Neonatal deaths (under 4 weeks of age).

Legitimate	6	3	9 (7)
Illegitimate	2	-	2 (-)
	8	3	11 (7)

Infant and Neonatal Mortality Rates

	1958	1957	1956	1955	1958 -Eng. and Wales.
Deaths of Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	19.16	15.95	14.87	18.37	-
Deaths of illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	153.84	-	-	45.45	-
Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age per 1,000 total live births	18.74	12.09	10.75	14.88	16.2
Deaths of infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 total live births	22.14	15.54	14.26	19.85	22.5

Causes of Infant Deaths

Congenital Malformation	1
Prematurity	4
Respiratory Disease	1
Diseases peculiar to the Newborn	4
Other Causes	3

CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE BROMSGROVE RURAL DISTRICT

1958

Causes of Death	M.	F.	Total	Mortality Rate per 1,000 Pop.
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	-	1	.03
2. Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-	-
3. Syphilitic disease	1	-	1	.03
4. Diphtheria	-	-	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal infections	-	-	-	-
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-
8. Measles	-	-	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	2	1	3	.09
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3	5	8	.24
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	6	4	10	.29
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	7	7	.21
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	-	-	-
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	30	11	41	1.22
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	2	1	3	.09
16. Diabetes	-	1	1	.03
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	22	18	40	1.19
18. Coronary disease, angina	35	19	54	1.61
19. Hypertension with heart disease	-	2	2	.06
20. Other heart disease	16	21	37	1.10
21. Other circulatory disease	6	3	9	.27
22. Influenza	1	1	2	.06
23. Pneumonia	5	12	17	.50
24. Bronchitis	14	4	18	.53
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	1	2	3	.09
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	3	1	4	.12
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	1	1	.03
28. Neph ritis and nephrosis	-	1	1	.03
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	2	-	2	.06
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-	-
31. Congenital Malformation	1	-	1	.03
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	16	13	29	.87
33. Motor vehicle accidents	5	1	6	.18
34. All other accidents	6	2	8	.24
35. Suicide	3	1	4	.12
36. Homicide and operations of war	-	2	2	.06
TOTALS	181	134	315	9.41

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

The County Council continued to administer the several ante-natal, child welfare, school immunisation, dental and specialist clinics where much valuable work is done towards the preservation of health of the community and the prevention of disease. The help given at Infant Welfare Clinics by voluntary workers was very much appreciated by the Medical and Nursing Staffs.

The Health Visiting, Home Nursing and Midwifery Services, provided by the County Council, supported by the Home Help Service arranged by the W.V.S. and Loan of Nursing Requisites Scheme managed by the Red Cross, continued to provide useful domiciliary help.

(a) Hospital Services

The following hospitals were available to the residents of the district:-

Infectious Disease	Hayley Green Hospital, Halesowen Little Bromwich Fever Hospital, Birmingham
Tuberculosis	Knightwick Sanatorium Hayley Green Sanatorium, Halesowen
Maternity	All Saints Hospital, Bromsgrove Mary Stevens Maternity Hospital, Stourbridge Lucy Baldwin Maternity Hospital, Stourport The Birmingham Maternity Hospital, Birmingham
Children's Disease	Children's Hospital, Birmingham
Venereal Disease	General Hospital, Birmingham Royal Infirmary, Worcester
Mental Illness	Barnsley Hall Mental Hospital, Bromsgrove Powick Mental Hospital, Malvern
Chest Surgery	Hill Top Hospital, Bromsgrove
General	The General Hospital, Bromsgrove Bromsgrove Cottage Hospital Smallwood Hospital, Redditch The General Hospital, Birmingham
Aged Chronic Sick	The General Hospital, Bromsgrove

(b) Laboratory Facilities

Bacteriological examinations were carried out by the Public Health Laboratory Service, Royal Infirmary, Worcester. Analysis of water etc., was carried out by the County Laboratory at Worcester. The Health Department is indebted to the directors of those laboratories for their ready assistance and co-operation.

Figures of immunisation and vaccination carried out are found under Section (F).

(c) Ambulance Service

This was provided by the County Council and the Rural District was serviced from surrounding centres.

(d) Health Education

The Council contributes to the Central Council for Health Education.

SECTION C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

1. Sanitary Inspection of the Area

The Chief Public Health Inspector in his report gives details of the Sanitary Inspections carried out during the year.

2. Water Supply

Apart from supplies to Adams Hill, Clent and to about eleven premises at Chapmans Hill, Romsley, the supply of main water in the District is the charge of various Statutory water undertakings.

Most of the houses in the district were supplied with main piped water supplies which were satisfactory in quality and quantity. There were still, however, many dwellings and farm premises with only well water supplies. These latter supplies were to a large extent, unsatisfactory.

Routine sampling of drinking water from private wells and springs for bacteriological and chemical analysis was continued during the year. The results were very poor; 51% were bacteriologically unsatisfactory while 24% were chemically unsatisfactory.

Sampling at source of main supplies was done by the water undertakings, but consumer samples were taken from time to time in the District. All were satisfactory.

During the year under review, the following extensions of mains were effected:-

The City of Birmingham Water Department	1,665 yards
East Worcestershire Waterworks Company	1,354 yards
The South Staffordshire Waterworks Company	210 yards
Stourbridge and District Water Board	2,331 yards

In addition the duplicate main from Holy Cross to Belbroughton laid at the end of 1957 was brought into use early in 1958.

The following water supply extension scheme, which had already been approved in principle, was carried out during the year:-

Madeley Heath & Newtown, Belbroughton.

The outstanding schemes which have been approved in principle by the Ministry are as follows:-

Location	Parish
Walton Pool and Vine Lane	Clent
Rumbow	Clent and Romsley
Dark Lane	Wythall

Also, consideration was given to the provision of main water to Croppings Green area, Belbroughton and to Gorcott Hill, Beoley.

3. Drainage and Sewerage

The following are the Sewage Disposal Works situated in the District:-

Alvechurch
Clent

Cofton Hackett

Belbroughton
Hagley
Hunnington
Stoke Prior

Wythall

Lye Bridge
Hossill Lane
Horse Pasture - Land irrigation
Kingswood Road - to Birmingham
Cofton Road
Weybridge
Sweetpool Lane
Illey Lane
Stoke Works
Finstall - Pumping Station to Bromsgrove U.D.C.
Houndsfield Lane

Apart from schemes which have been previously considered and are at present in abeyance the general position with regard to schemes for sewers and sewage disposal at the end of the year was as follows:-

Alvechurch

Hopwood area.	Approved by Ministry and tender accepted.
Tanyard Lane (Relief Sewer)	Plans prepared. Has been in abeyance, but Consulting Engineer is preparing an up to date estimate.

Belbroughton

Fairfield.	Approved in principle by Council. Now in consultation with Bromsgrove U.D.C. re sharing of joint capital costs and cost of treatment.

Clent

Pinewoods Avenue area.	Approved in principle and negotiated price submitted to Ministry for approval.

Hagley

Sweetpool Lane Works.	Work has continued on this major scheme throughout the year. Not yet completed.

Wythall

Houndsfield Lane.	Works Improvements and sewering of Station Road, Alcester Road area - Consulting Engineer preparing detailed scheme.

Pail Emptying

Pail emptying service was continued at fortnightly intervals in Stoke Prior and in a portion of Wythall parish.

4. Public Cleansing

This service continued to be administered by the Surveyor's Department. Domestic refuse is collected fortnightly and cesspools emptied quarterly free of charge.

SECTION D

HOUSING

As will be seen from figures under Section A of this report, the population of the district was increased by 870. Although 35 houses were erected by the Council and 150 by private enterprise, the general position remained much the same, there still being 441 applicants on the Council's housing list.

Details of action taken under the Housing and Public Health Acts are included in the report of the Chief Public Health Inspector.

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Routine inspections of food premises were continued during the year, and every effort was made to ensure the clean and safe handling of foodstuffs. Further reference to the subject is made in the Chief Public Health Inspector's report.

Food Poisoning

Five individual cases of food poisoning were notified during the year. Investigation failed to show the cause.

SECTION F

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Notifiable Disease 1958

DISEASE	Corrected Notifications	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Smallpox	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	27	-	-
Measles	110	-	-
Whooping Cough	35	-	-
Typhoid Fever	-	-	-
Paratyphoid	-	-	-
Dysentery	1	-	-
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Acute Encephalitis	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-
Acute Pneumonia	10	-	17
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-
Malaria	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	5	-	-
TOTAL	188	-	17

Diphtheria Immunisation

The number of children immunised during the year was as follows:-

Primary Immunisation

Under 5 years old	512	(385)
5 - 14 years old	17	(20)
	529	(405)
Re-inforcing (Booster) injections	250	(288)

The "Immunisation State" of children in the Rural District on 31st December, 1958, was as follows:-

Age at 31.12.58. i.e. Born in year	Under 1 1958	1-4 1954-1957	5-9 1949-1953	10-14 1944-1948	Under 15 Total
Last complete course of injections (whether primary or booster), 1954-1958	100	1,428	1,505	197	3,230
1953 or earlier	-	-	614	2,158	2,772
Number of Births	587	1,911			

Smallpox

No case of smallpox was reported.

Number of persons Vaccinated (or Revaccinated) during 1958:-

Age at 31.12.58 i.e. Born in year	Under 1 1958	1 1957	2-4 1954-1956	5-14 1944-1953	15 and over 1943	Total
Number Vaccinated	362	6	12	4	9	393
Number Revaccinated	-	-	1	1	10	12

The number of babies Vaccinated showed a decrease over the previous year. The figure of 362 was 62% of the average number of babies born in the two years 1958-1957 which was 583.

Whooping Cough

Number of children who have completed a primary course (normally 3 injections) of pertussis vaccine (singly or in combination) in the Authority's area during the year ended 31.12.58.

0-4years	5-14 years	Total
473	12	485

Tuberculosis

Incidence and Mortality during 1958

Age	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 5	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 14	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 24	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 44	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 64	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
65 and over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Age unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	3	5	-	-	1	-	-	-

Tuberculosis continued to be notified to the district council. The statutory duty of keeping the Tuberculosis Register rested with the County Council.

The District Health Department continued to maintain a list of individuals resident within the district notified as suffering from Tuberculosis, which was kept up-to-date by information received from the County Medical Officer of Health.

Eight cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified during the year.

The total number of registered cases was 152 (159) as follows:-

	M.	F.	Total
Pulmonary	67	69	136
Non-Pulmonary	9	7	16
Total	76	76	152

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1958

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE BROMSGROVE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Report for 1958.

After being suspended for twelve months, the making of Improvement Grants was re-commenced as from 1st April, and 24 applications were approved during the year. Work was completed at 16 properties and grants totalling £3,150 were certified for payment.

Twelve Demolition Orders were made, 62 premises were repaired and 29 applications received for Certificates of Disrepair.

The duplicate main to improve water supplies to Broome Hill, Belbroughton was brought into use early in the year and no further complaints have been received. Also, the main extension to serve the Bell Heath and Madeley areas was completed, much to the satisfaction of the local residents. The Portway and Gorcott Hill areas of Beoley, the Dark Lane area of Wythall, and the Rumbow, Vine Lane and Walton Pool areas of Clent were, however, still in need of piped supplies.

The Council accepted a tender for the sewering of the Hopwood area of Alvechurch, which had long been delayed. Work proceeded on the re-construction of the Hagley Sewage Works, and a negotiated price was submitted for approval for sewering the Pinewoods Avenue area of Clent Parish. Whilst I have no responsibility in these matters, they are of direct concern to the Public Health, and I am pleased to record the progress that has been made.

The five slaughterhouses continued to operate and 532 cattle, 23 cows, 38 calves, 2,347 sheep and 400 pigs were inspected in the course of the year. The meat was of a good standard and apart from the cows the percentage condemned was small. It is also pleasing to report that all the 30 samples of milk taken for biological examination were n gative for M. Tuberculosis, and that 63 of the 67 ice cream samples were placed in Provisional Grade 1.

The coming into operation in August of the Litter Act, 1958, found us in the happy position of having pursued a vigorous policy with regard to litter for a number of years, and this Act, if properly implemented, should go a long way towards removing this national disgrace from our country. However, there is still much to be done and it leaves no room for complacency if we are to compare ourselves with our tidy and litter conscious neighbours on the Continent.

The general work of the Department has gone satisfactorily throughout the year and I am grateful to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee and Mr. Dudley for their helpful co-operation and to the Medical Officer of Health, Dr. C.H. Phillips, and members of my Staff who are largely responsible for the smooth running of the Health Department.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

PEARSON P. CHAMINGS,

Chief Public Health Inspector

COMPLAINTS

A total of 102 complaints were received during the year 1958, all of which were investigated and appropriate action taken.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

The following are the numbers and nature of Inspections made during the year:-

Houses inspected	878
Number of inspections and re-inspections of houses	2,385
Inspections under Housing Regulations	-
Visits re Complaints and Nuisances	157
Visits re Notifiable Diseases	61
Knacker's Yard	17
Visits re Meat Inspection	498
Milk and Dairies	49
Piggeries	118
Schools	13
Factories and Workshops	67
Outworkers' Premises	-
Tents, Vans and Sheds	466
Water Supply	288
Works in Progress	452
Drainage	473
Shops etc. (re unfit food)	6
Visits to Shops and Food Premises	296
Rodent Control	81
Canal Boats	-
Outside Interviews	735
Verminous Premises	-
Miscellaneous	277
Total number of informal Notices served during the year	73

HOUSING

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year:-

(i) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 878

(b) Number of Inspections made for the purpose. 2,385

(ii) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (i) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 -

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose -

(iii) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation. 18

(iv) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) not found to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 77

2. Remedy of defects during the year without Service of formal Notices:-

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers 62

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year:-

A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 12 of the Housing Act, 1957:-

(i) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs -

(ii) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:-

(a) By Owners -
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners -

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts:-

(i) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 5

(ii) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:-

(a) By Owners 5
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners -

C. Proceedings under Sections 16 and 23 of the Housing Act, 1957:-

(i) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made 12

(ii) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in anticipation of Demolition Orders 6

(iii) Number of Undertakings accepted under Section 16 -

(iv) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made -

D. Proceedings under Section 18 of the Housing Act, 1957

(i) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made -

(ii) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined the tenement or room having been rendered fit -

4. Housing Act, 1957, Part IV - Overcrowding in the district.

It is not possible to supply accurate figures for overcrowding in the district.

General - Housing

Twelve Demolition Orders were made during the year and included two shacks at Clent Villa Farm, Hagley. Six sub-standard properties were demolished as a result of informal action, including four shacks at Clent Villa Farm.

Sixty-two houses were repaired, and in five cases it was necessary to issue Statutory Notices under the Public Health Act.

The Council recommenced from the 1st April, the making of Improvement Grants. Applications were approved to the end of the year for 24 houses. One of these cases was later cancelled by the Council for breach of conditions. Two applications were under consideration at the end of the year.

Rent Act, 1957

A total of 29 applications for Certificates of Disrepair were received in the year. Twenty four Undertakings were received and nine Certificates were issued including 7 and 1 respectively from 1957 applications. In four cases the work was done after notice of proposal to issue a Certificate. One application was not completed by the end of the year.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

There were eight sites licensed under the Public Health Act and twenty-four individual licences in force during the year.

The total number of moveable dwellings in permanent occupation throughout the District was 488 mainly modern trailer caravans.

The demand for this type of accommodation arose mainly from persons not previously resident in the District.

The Camping Club of Great Britain continued to maintain their holiday site at Romsley in a satisfactory manner.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(a) Milk

As the District was in a "Specified area", all milk sold to the public had to be under one of the authorised Special Designations, and consequently no samples of non-designated milk were taken.

The 19 samples of designated milk submitted for examination complied with the required standard. It will be appreciated that a large percentage of the milk retailed in the District was bottled in other Authorities' areas where it was regularly sampled and, therefore, only a limited number were taken by my Department.

In addition, 30 samples were taken for biological examination, all of which were negative for M. Tuberculosis.

The Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1949

The following licences (including supplementary licences) were issued during the year:-

Tuberculin Tested Milk:-			
Dealers Bottling	2	Distributors	34
Pasteurised Milk:-			
Distributors	40		
Sterilised Milk:-			
Distributors	41		

(b) Meat and other Foods

There were seven licensed Slaughterhouses in the District, but at only five was regular slaughtering carried out. All animals slaughtered were inspected and this entailed some extra work at week-ends and evenings.

Following is a summary of the inspections and condemnations which took place:-

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	532	23	38	2,347	400
Number inspected	532	23	38	2,347	400
All diseases except Tuberculosis					
Whole carcases condemned	-	-	1	1	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	26	10	5	16	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	4.88	43.47	15.78	0.72	-
Tuberculosis only					
Whole carcase condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	25	5	-	-	6
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	4.69	21.73	-	-	1.5

Routine visits were made to food shops, cafes and public-houses for the inspection of premises and examination of food-stuffs and, in the main, conditions were reasonably satisfactory.

A certain amount of foodstuffs of various kinds were condemned as unfit for human consumption at retail food premises during the year.

(c) Ice Cream

The total number of registrations in force for premises for the manufacture of Ice Cream was two and for retail sale only 121.

Sixty-seven samples were submitted during the year for bacteriological examination and the results of the samples were as follows:-

Provisional Grade	1 - 63	Satisfactory
	2 - 2	Satisfactory
	3 - 1	Unsatisfactory
	4 - 1	Unsatisfactory

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT

Twenty-one licences to slaughter animals were issued under the above Act during the year.

HOUSE DRAINAGE

Twenty existing houses were connected to the sewer and 24 were drained to cesspool, making a total of 44 for the year. Repairs were carried out to drainage systems at a further 18 properties.

The question of providing sewers to various parts of the District and improving disposal works where necessary was considered by the Council during the year.

WATER SUPPLY

Ten samples of mains water were submitted for bacteriological and chemical examination and ten for bacteriological examination only. All were satisfactory.

Thirty-seven samples of water from private wells and springs were submitted for both chemical and bacteriological examination, and ten for bacteriological examination only.

Of these twenty-four were bacteriologically unsatisfactory and nine chemically unsatisfactory; twenty-eight were chemically satisfactory and twenty-three bacteriologically satisfactory.

Forty-three existing premises were connected to the water main in the course of 1958.

A total of 5,560 yards of new mains were laid by the various Water Undertakings within the District during the year.

These extensions were principally to supply new development in Wythall, Cofton Hackett and Hagley, and completion of the scheme for the Bell Heath and Madeley area of Belbroughton.

The duplicate main to improve supplies to Broome Hill, Belbroughton was brought into use early in the year, but there is still the need to provide main water to the considerable number of houses in the district in urgent need of piped water supply, particularly in the Dark Lane area, Wythall; Portway and Gorcott Hill area, Beoley; Rumbow area, Clent; Vine Lane and Walton Pool, Clent.

DISINFESTATION

No premises were found to be in need of disinfestation.

All the Council refuse tips were periodically treated for flies and crickets where necessary by the Surveyor's Department.

RODENT CONTROL

A full-time Rodent Operative is employed. A total of 135 infestations of private houses, 78 at business premises and 46 at agricultural premises were successfully treated.

During the year the Council continued to provide a free service for the destruction of rats at private dwellings, but in the case of business premises a charge was made as previously.

The service was fully used and in addition a considerable number of visits were made for survey purposes by the Operative.

Forty-six contracts were made for the treatment of business and agricultural premises during the year and the income from this source amounted to £216. Due to the "run down" of the Agricultural Committee's service, the Council agreed to offer contracts to replace those formerly held by the A.E.C.

Frequent inspections of the refuse tips and sewage works were carried out throughout the year and necessary treatments carried out by the Operative.

Test baiting of the sewers was carried out in September in accordance with the requirements of the Infestation Control Division of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, and one slight infestation was discovered.

Due to the co-operation of the public, possibly because of the free service, 76 infestations were notified. These were in early stages and were thus only of a minor nature, but it seems essential to continue the service to prevent any large-scale build-up.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

One case occurred during the course of the year where it was necessary to make arrangements for the burial, under the provisions of the above Act, of a person dying within the District.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIAL ACT, 1951

The premises of one firm are registered for the use of filling materials to which this Act applies.

SMOKE ABATEMENT

The number of industrial premises is not large and as a result air pollution from factory chimneys did not present a major problem.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948

PREMISES	Number on Register (3)	Number of		
		Inspections (4)	Written Notices (5)	Occupiers Prosecuted (6)
1. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	3	2	-	-
2. Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	79	57	-	-
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises).	13	8	-	-
TOTAL	95	67	-	-

CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

PARTICULARS (1)	No. of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were Instituted (7)
			Referred		
	Found (3)	Remedied (4)	To H.M. Inspector (5)	By H.M. Inspector (6)	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective Drainage of Floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7):-	-	-	-	-	
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or Defective	2	2	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	2	2	-	-	-